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OTANI HAJIME**(54) METHOD FOR CLEANING HOLLOW-FIBER MEMBRANE MODULE****(57)Abstract:**

PURPOSE: To reduce cleaning time and to easily maintain the initial permeability of the membrane by emptying out the inside of a cylindrical case to contain a hollow-fiber membrane bundle and exerting a back pressure from the permeation side to clean the membrane module.

CONSTITUTION: The hollow-fiber membrane bundle 12 is placed in the cylindrical case 11, the inside of the case 11 is used as the raw liq. chamber and the inside of the hollow-fiber membrane as the permeation side to constitute the hollow- fiber membrane module 1. The module 1 is cleaned at regular time intervals during its filtration operation. In that case, the inside of the case 11 is emptied out, a back pressure is exerted from the permeation side to force the permeated liq. in the backwashing tank into the hollow-fiber membrane, and backwashing is performed. As a result, cleaning time is reduced, and the membrane can be cleaned at regular time intervals during its operation without substantially hindering the operational continuity.

